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26 April 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director, ORS  
Assistant Director, OSI

SUBJECT: Standard Operating Procedure for Preparation and Dissemination of National Estimates

1. Enclosed is a letter of 17 April from the Joint Intelligence Committee.
2. At the Director's suggestion, we are drafting a good strong reply, incorporating some of the things I have discussed with you on the telephone. In a few days we shall want to have your comments on our draft of the reply; so, in the meantime, will you try to figure out what is behind this letter from the JIC or what it is trying to change.
3. Of course the IAC has no "collective" responsibilities as pointed out in R-350 and so far as we know "drafts" of national estimates always go only to the intelligence agencies themselves when the members of the IAC concur in them or dissent. Change of deadlines are transmitted expeditiously, by telephone and otherwise. The IAC members concur or dissent from the CIA estimate, so cannot be given "equal" prominence with the CIA paper, but dissents are published at the same time. The JABIC is one of the producing units in CIA so we cannot understand why it is singled out.
4. Anyway, think it over so that you can give us some additional ideas in a few days.

PRESGOTT CHILDS, Chief  
Coordinations, Operations  
and Policy Staff

PC/cd

Encl: Copy of Memo from  
JIC dated 17 April 1950

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